

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 NEA-10 H-02 SS-15 NSC-10 OMB-01

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

RSR-01 /103 W

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R 091144 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 215

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR XG

SUBJ: EUROPEAN FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF RADIO FREE EUROPE AND
RADIO LIBERTY

REF: STATE 107371

1. EMBASSY AGREES THAT IT WOULD NOT BE WORTHWHILE TO RISK THE REBUFF WHICH SURELY WOULD RESULT WERE WE TO ASK THE GOS TO HELP FINANCE RFE/ RL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES. UNFORTUNATELY, EVEN POSSIBILITIES OF OBTAINING NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORT HERE IS PROBABLY LIMITED. MOST OF THE VERY FEW PROSPECTIVE DONOR NGOS RECEIVE THEIR FUNDS FROM RIKSDAG APPROPRIATION AND WHILE SOME HAVE A MORE OR LESS AUTONOMOUS POSITION (STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SWEDISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION, ETC.) GENERAL ATTITUDE PREVAILING HERE -- THAT RFE AND RL ARE " REMNANTS OF THE COLD WAR"-- WOULD MOST LIKELY PREDETERMINE RESPONSES OF POLITICALLY ATTUNED DIRECTORS, EVEN THOUGH INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH CHIEFS MIGHT USE THE STATIONS' RESEARCH PRODUCTS.

2. GIVEN GENERAL CLIMATE PREVAILING HERE I HAVE MADE ONLY VERY TENTATIVE APPROACH TO MFA. I INFORMALLY SOUNDED OUT DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR EDELSTAM AND UN AFFAIRS DIVISION CHIEF ORN ON WHAT THEY THOUGHT SWEDISH REACTION MIGHT BE TO
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A SUGGESTION THAT GOS SUPPORT-- OR EVEN LOOK BENIGNLY ON-- A CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR RFE/ RL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AMONG SWEDISH NGOS. EDELSTAM' S REPLY WAS UNHESITATINGLY AND DISTINCTLY NEGATIVE.

3. IF IT IS STILL DECIDED TO APPROACH SWEDISH NGOS ON SUBJECT I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST NOT TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST TO GOS FOR A FAVORABLE ATTITUDE-- EFFECT WOULD MOST LIKELY BE THAT GOS WOULD ACTIVELY OPPOSE THE EFFORT.

3. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE I HOPE THAT DEPARTMENT WITNESS WILL NOT FIND IT NECESSARY ON JUNE 12 TO SPECIFY SWEDEN AS ON OF THE WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WITH WHICH THIS QUESTION HAS BEEN RAISED. MFA MAY NOT REGARD MY CONVERSATION WITH EDELSTAM AS FORMALLY " RAISING QUESTION." MORE IMPORTANTLY, GOS MIGHT FEEL COMPELLED TO REACT TO PUBLIC MENTION WITH FLAT- OUT PUBLIC REBUFF.
OLSEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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